

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Zaudtke. The Examiner stated that Zaudtke discloses all the limitations of the independent claims 1, 8, 13, and 17. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

With respect to the independent claims 1, 8, 13, and 17, these claim require that each independent system comprises a serial interface and a buffer device with an external serial interface coupled with the serial interface for buffering crash data. Furthermore, a management controller is coupled with the external serial interface. This claim specifically uses the serial interface of computer system and requires coupling of this interface with the buffer device because the serial interface on such a standard computer systems is used to dump out crash data in case of a system crash.

Zaudtke merely discloses that a server has a serial interface. However, this interface can directly be coupled with a handheld device to receive information delivered by an internal health management software. To this end, the handheld device is selectively coupled with the one of the servers. Even though a handheld device coupled with a server through the serial interface will receive crash data, this is already state of the art and not subject of the present invention. If a server according to the prior art is not coupled with the handheld device and the server crashes the crash data dumped through the serial port will simply be lost. However, according to independent claim 1 of the present invention, a computer system is provided with a buffer device coupled with the serial data port and will, thus, be able to buffer the crash data for later retrieval.

Furthermore, claim 1 requires a management controller coupled with the external serial port of the buffer device. Zaudtke does not provide for such a system. The Examiner refers to the health management system as providing data for the handheld device. The limitations of the independent claims are directed for providing the crash information in case a

system crashes. In case of a system crash, the respective system is not operable anymore and practically the last act of the system is to dump the crash data through the serial port before shut down.

Zaudtke, however, discloses a health management software program for monitoring the “health”-status of the computer system. This health status monitoring system is, however, run as a software application on the system that is being monitored. See paragraph [0046]. In case of a crash of such a system, the software will not operate and, thus, there will be no information provided by this software. Similar to any other system, such a system will sent out crash data through the serial port before shut down. Zaudtke discloses a microcontroller coupled with an internal serial I²C bus and controlled by the health software to provide current status data. An I²C bus, however, is not a serial port but rather an internal bus which allows communication between different internal devices. Fig. 2 and Fig. 3A of Zaudtke show a serial port with numeral 121. However, this port is not equipped with a buffer device. Nevertheless, this port will be used in a crash situation to dump crash data because the function of dumping crash data through the serial port is a function of the Basic Input Output System (BIOS) which is shown in Fig. 2 with numeral 231.

Therefore, Zaudtke discloses a completely different system that provides data about the health status of a system and requires at least operability of the system for providing the respective data. Zaudtke neither discloses nor suggests to provide a buffer device coupled with the serial port of a computer system and coupled with an external management system for securing the crash data sent by a computer system in case of a crash.

The dependent claims include all the limitations of the respective independent claims and are, thus, allowable at least to the extent of the independent claims. Therefore, Applicant believes that Zaudtke does not anticipate the present invention.

With respect to claims 2, 11, 13, and 17, the Examiner states that Zaudtke discloses a switch which is coupled with the serial output port as for example shown in Fig. 2 of the present application. However, Applicant could not find any disclosure about such a switch. Zaudtke merely discloses that the microcontroller may monitor a button embedded in a bezel of

the computer system to evaluate a respective switch position. See paragraph [0054]. However, no switch is disclosed that couples the serial output port with an external management system.

SUMMARY

In light of the above remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested. It is further submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the agent of record by telephone or facsimile. If there are any fees due with the filing of this Response, including any fees for an extension of time, Applicants respectfully Petition the Commissioner for such an extension and direct that any and all fees be charged to Baker Botts L.L.P., Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (*formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.*) Order Number 016295.0748.

Respectfully submitted,

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AGENT FOR APPLICANTS

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